

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

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No. 8

PRESIDENT'S DESK

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations holds its Twenty-First Annual Child-Welfare Conference, April 24 to May 1.

**The Twenty-First
Child-Welfare
Conference of the
National Congress
of Mothers and
Parent-Teacher
Associations**

It is a milestone in the history of this great movement—a time for review of accomplishments, for plans for the future.

The meeting comes at the most critical time that this country has ever faced. Every heart is shadowed with the terrible events of world war, and with the probability that our own country may not escape the tragedy.

Measures of vital concern to all of us are being considered.

They must tower above all other matters at this time. In the nation's capital the mothers of the nation will meet, Providence permitting. The President of the United States and Congress are bearing grave responsibility. In their keeping is the guidance of our country. They have inner knowledge of much the public cannot know. They should have the prayers and coöperation of every loyal citizen, that America may work out its great destiny, that it may be led wisely, that it may place honor and justice above all else, that it may work out adequate plans for defense and protection, without creating the conditions that have elsewhere been created, disregard for the rights of other nations and desire to overcome and possess. Women of the nation will share with men all that may lie before us. "United we stand, divided we fall." It is a time for sinking the spirit of criticism, to be tolerant, to study as never before the measures that are proposed, and seeing all sides intelligently meet the crisis. "It is a condition not a theory that confronts us." A wise provision of the Constitution gives to Congress as well as the President the care of the country's course. May they be guided by the Divine Ruler.

The Conferences of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in connection with the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association which have been held for four or five years have increased steadily in importance and interest. Four or five thousand of the leaders in education in the United States assemble at this convention. Whatever the message may be it is thus carried into every section of the country. The programs of the educational bodies meeting with the National Education Association are printed in their program. This year Kansas City, Mo., entertained the convention.

**Conference of the
National Congress
of Mothers and
Parent-Teacher
Associations in
Kansas City, Mo.,
February 28-
March 2**

National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

SESSIONS IN BALL ROOM, HOTEL MUEHLEBACH, KANSAS CITY, MO.

*Wednesday Afternoon, February 28, 2:30 o'clock**Round Table Conference*

TOPIC: OPPORTUNITIES AND USES OF PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

The Purposes of the Parent-Teacher Association; Its Value to the Home, School, and Community

From the Viewpoint of State Departments of Public Instruction

Charles A. Wagner, Delaware; J. A. Churchill, Oregon; C. P. Cary, Wisconsin

The Viewpoint of City Superintendents

Jeremiah Rhodes, Pasadena, Cal.; Charles Foos, Reading, Pa.; John P. Garber, Philadelphia, Pa.

Value from Parents' Viewpoint

Mrs. Chalmers Hutchison, Honorary President, Texas Congress, Fort Worth, Tex.; Mrs. J. B. McBride, Honorary President, Missouri Congress, Springfield, Mo.

The Standard of a Successful Parent-Teacher Association; Reasons for Unsuccessful Parent-Teacher Associations

Making the Programs, Educational Material Available, Choosing the Leaders

Mrs. E. R. Weeks, Kansas City, Mo.

Community Benefits Effected by Parent-Teacher Associations

J. H. Francis, Superintendent of Schools, Columbus, Ohio

Americanization of Foreign Mothers and Children

Mrs. Mary C. Bradford, State Superintendent of Schools, Colorado

Baby Saving

Mrs. Walter Jobe, President, Missouri Branch

*Thursday Afternoon, March 1, 2:30 o'clock**Round Table Conference*

TOPIC: EDUCATION IN HOME MAKING AND CHILD NURTURE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE

"Fully three fourths of the delinquencies among children are traceable directly to the lack of proper supervision, environment and companionship in the home."—T. J. Cleeton, Juvenile Judge, Portland, Ore.

Some Neglects in Home Education of Children

Mr. F. C. Weir, New York

From a Kindergarten Standpoint

Mary C. McCulloch, Supervisor of Kindergartens, St. Louis, Mo.

Federal Recognition of Parents as Educators

P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C.

Friday, March 2, the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations gave a luncheon at Hotel Muehlebach, which crowded the room to the fullest capacity. Among the speakers were state superintendents, city superintendents and leaders in Congress work from different states.

The Kansas City Council of Parent-Teacher Associations took charge of local arrangements and opened the homes of its members for the entertainment of delegates in attendance from a number of states. The Council gave a reception to national and state officers at the Coates House on the closing evening of the Conference.

Everyone pronounced the sessions arranged by the Congress as having given inspiration and genuine help. They were attended by hundreds of educational leaders, many of whom voiced their hearty appreciation of the great educational work of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. Every speaker on the program contributed a different thought, and all spoke from experience with parent-teacher associations.

This conference with the National Education Association has done more than anything else to promote knowledge of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations and to increase the number of educators who are coöperating in the extension of parent-teacher associations and in making them mediums for education in child nurture and home making, as well as coöperation with teachers.

The officers of the Kansas branch, National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, fixed the date of the Biennial Convention immediately following the National Conference in Kansas City in order that they might have the National President with them. Wichita is a beautiful city with wide clean streets, fine schools, beautiful homes, enthusiastic parent-teacher associations, and a hearty welcome for every one who came to the Congress. Valuable work is being done, and the women of Kansas with their new responsibility as voters are sensibly and thoughtfully studying the laws in a way that promises well-considered action when they decide to do things. The spirit of the Congress was fine, and the reports of department chairmen were inspiring. State Superintendent Moore made an earnest appeal for attention to the health of the country children, which is far below that of the children in the cities.

Mrs. J. Cooper King was in charge of local arrangements.

Evansville has become deeply interested in the work of Parent-Teacher Associations, having tested their value in connection with the schools. At the recent State Conference in Indianapolis, Mrs. Charles W. Wittenbraker, of Evansville, was chosen as president, and that city will entertain the next state convention.

Indiana President Arranges Conference of Parent-Teacher Associations in Evansville

Superintendent Benezet and Mrs. Wittenbraker arranged a meeting of all the Parent-Teacher Associations, March 9, to meet the National President. Evansville is a city of over 100,000 people, on the banks of the Ohio, and the hearty coöperation of Superintendent Benezet has been a great factor in the splendid work of the Parent-Teacher Associations. Mrs. Wittenbraker is a graduate of National Kindergarten College under Miss Harrison, and with her experience as a mother is well qualified to lead the state work effectively and with an insight into the broad purposes for which it is organized.

State Superintendent Gilbert, of Kentucky, has taken the lead in the movement for organization of a Kentucky branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

Kentucky Will Organize a State Branch in April

He appointed Miss Lida Gardiner as state organizer of Parent-Teacher Associations and she has visited 100 of the 104 counties of Kentucky and has enlisted over 11,000 mothers.

Coöperating with Superintendent Gilbert and Miss Gardiner the Parent-Teacher Associations of Louisville have arranged to have the meeting for state organization held in that city in April. Miss Gardiner has accepted the place of Organizer of Kentucky, representing the Congress, and the enthusiastic interest of every one promises that Kentucky will have a charter membership larger than any other state on its first entrance into the work.

By invitation of Superintendent Gilbert and Mrs. Frazier, of Louisville, the National President spent a day in Louisville meeting most cordial welcome. Conference with the leaders concerning methods of work. A beautiful luncheon arranged by the Domestic Science Department of the High School brought together over 150 of the men and women of Louisville. This was followed by a large meeting in the auditorium of the high school, which was presided over by Mrs. Frazier, President of the Council, and addressed by Mrs. Schoff and Miss Gardiner.

Long has the Congress wished to welcome Kentucky into its ranks, and it is gratifying that Kentucky itself took the initiative in forming a state branch. Under present plans no state will have as extensive organization of communities.

The past month has been one of great activity among our national officers.

Mrs. Mears, Vice-President, has been very busy with the gratifying returns which have rewarded her arduous work in preparing for Founder's Day.

**Activities of
National Officers**

Vice-President Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, accompanied by Miss Lucy Wheelock, has journeyed from Massachusetts to California, as always bearing the Congress of Mothers on her heart, and carrying its message to many towns and cities on her way. Both ladies spoke at meetings arranged for them by the Bureau of Education in the states of Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona and California. Mrs. Bright has held important conferences in Indiana and Ohio.

Our Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Arthur A. Birney, spent the winter in Florida doing much work in preparation for the organization of a branch in that state, which work has been followed up more recently by our Treasurer, Mrs. Thacher.

"Well, we have formed a Parent-Teacher Association; now what shall we do?"

How often that question is asked by the newly organized Parent-Teacher Associations!

**What Shall We Do
Now That We
Have Organized**

The National Yearbook answers many of these inquiries, and every state on receiving new organizations should notify the national office that the President may receive the Yearbook, a sample copy of CHILD-WELFARE and other literature to which she is entitled.

It is in the very beginning of their work that they need the help the national literature will give, but if the State Treasurer or State President fails to notify the national office of the new member this valuable guidance cannot be given.

Every month a list of new associations should be sent to the national office, 910 Loan and Trust Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Local associations should be requested by state presidents to notify them as well as the national office when new officers are chosen.

Moral Responsibility of the Day School

By EMMA GARY WALLACE

While none of us would minimize the duty of parents, in establishing correct habits and right foundation principles during early years, yet we must not forget that an institution such as the day school, which by law claims in the neighborhood of twelve hundred hours a year, for eight or ten of the plastic years of youth, is also largely responsible for the formation of character and the fixing of moral standards.

Children are naturally imitative, and more than this, they are keenly sensitive to being made conspicuous among their fellows. For this reason, they will often follow the example of those about them, even when such conduct is diametrically opposed to their home teachings. Many a child has fallen into habits at school which have clung through life, rather than to be the butt of playground ridicule or to be considered a weakling among his fellows.

This fact alone places a heavy responsibility upon the shoulders of the teacher, for the moral atmosphere of the school will shape the pupil into its own particular mold, whether it be good or bad. The teacher may plead the excuse that lack of time prevents much work in this direction, as a definite curriculum must be compassed in a certain time, according to the dictum of powers that be.

However, a properly disciplined school is easier to teach and will accomplish vastly more in a given time, than one which is lax in systematic moral requirements. Moreover, the cultivation of the right spirit in school will insure more thorough work, not only in the present but in the future life of the child as well.

In a certain famous university, the faculty has come to know about what they can expect from the pupils of different preparatory and high schools and they are welcomed accordingly. Some institutions send groups of incoming students year after

year, who are flippant, inclined to be disrespectful to instructors and lack a serious attitude toward their work. Other schools succeed only in imbuing their graduates with a mild degree of appreciation of educational opportunities, and the college course is nearly run before they wake up and get the viewpoint of their teachers. Then they will be found eagerly frequenting the library, and studying early and late to make the most of the fleeting hours. In this particular university, one high school, located about three hundred miles distant, sends from year after year, groups of young men and women with uniformly high moral standards, and possessed of an earnestness of purpose which easily places them in the first ranks in their classes, and makes successful leaders of them when they go forth to do their share of the world's work. The individual school spirit and school standards as maintained by teachers, parents and community make or mar its citizenship for all time.

If tardiness is permitted, the pupil gains a trifling idea of those life responsibilities which have to do with the value of time, the importance of keeping engagements promptly, and the ideas of honor involved. The teacher should seek the coöperation of the parents to insure regular and prompt attendance at every session. It may take a little time to devise and operate a system which will bring this about, but in the end time will be saved, general efficiency increased and a valuable lesson taught.

An improperly disciplined room is a menace to every pupil within its four walls. The pupils soon gain a disregard for law and order. To them the teacher becomes a tyrant and an oppressor, of whom it is a brave thing to take advantage. When law is disregarded within the school room, law at home and civic regula-

tions also become oppressive, and small infringements lead to trifling depredations, which in turn assume larger proportions, until we find boys and girls, so handled, rebellious, impertinent, untruthful, destructive, and even dishonest. Sooner or later, not a few of them find their way to the juvenile court or even to state reformatories or other semi-penal institutions.

The influence of an undisciplined school room in which a pupil is trained five days in the week, is an all-pervading influence, a tidal wave which many a parent is powerless to resist. Suppose that a child is awake thirteen or fourteen hours, from seven in the morning until eight or nine at night; that of this time nine or ten hours are spent on the way to and from school, in school, on the playground, or at play with companions trained in this same lax way; it leaves a small margin of time for the parent to stem the current and to combat the results of lowered standards. Perhaps the waking hours spent within the home are largely taken up by meals and home preparation of lessons. Important as is the home at every period of growth and development in the child's life, the school inevitably bulks large as a shaper of character.

The teacher who has a well-disciplined room will have studious pupils, who will gain the idea that concentration means the successful finishing of hard tasks. The atmosphere will be vibrant with earnestness, with happy working spirit, and a healthy competitive desire to excel. Moreover, the pupils will gain the important fundamental truths that no one individual has any right to encroach on the time, privileges, opportunity or property of another, also that *we succeed in exactly the ratio our own efforts have warranted*, and so the foundations of justice, honesty and industry are firmly established.

We are repeatedly told that this is the age of the child, and this acknowledgment marks a step in the

right direction. It shows that we realize our responsibility for the right training of youth. In a generation gone by, the child was seen and not heard. This can no longer be said, but in giving the child its freedom, we must not let the pendulum swing too far the other way and let freedom degenerate into license. The past generation produced some marvelously strong characters. Possibly other budding geniuses were discouraged by suppression or lack of encouragement and sympathetic understanding. Let us take heed, lest in the reaction we do not fall into the greater errors of letting immature minds sit in final judgment on vital life decisions, and in permitting too much precious time to be spent in the mere pursuit of pleasure.

Many a modern child does not possess an adequate idea of respect for his elders or reverence for sacred things, and in this, the elders themselves are not without blame. We are told that if a Jewish child struck a parent, the law provided the death penalty as a prompt retribution. This seems severe to us but the underlying thought of that law was that a parent stood to the child in the place of God, and unless he respected and revered his earthly parents whom he saw, how could he be expected to honor and obey a heavenly Father whom he had not seen?

In the course of time, this regulation was modified of necessity, but we have again gone too far the other way. Perhaps the influx of foreigners to our shores has had some influence upon this. These peoples have been ruled for centuries, arbitrarily, by an iron hand. Their idea of freedom, a land of the free and a home of the brave, has been to do exactly as they liked. Personal liberty has been their rallying cry, forgetful of the fact that we have no right to personal liberty which injures us or works to the detriment of our neighbor.

Some powerful adult organizations reflect this spirit, demanding for themselves concessions to which they are not entitled and which are a

positive injury, once they are gained. Our children get the same thought and put it into expression when they attempt to take advantage of their elders, to elude a policeman after committing some wilful act of mischief, or by the disrespect they unhesitatingly fling at those in authority. The idea of law which we must give our youth in the school room and at home is that it is an expression of protecting care and loving foresight. It is for the benefit and not the oppression of those governed.

When Christ was twelve years of age, He visited Jerusalem with His parents, and gave way to the boyish inclination to linger amid the fascination of unknown scenes even when the caravan of home people started on their return route. When He was finally missed and found by His anxious parents, He returned unhesitatingly, without questioning and in spite of the fact that He had been able to expound the law to the temple authorities, we are told that He was "subject to His parents." It is a maxim of all discipline that before one can be a leader of others, he himself must learn to obey.

The compliance to the discipline necessary in military and governmental institutions of all kinds, must be prompt and without questioning or argument. If mature minds find such discipline necessary and beneficial, surely the immature child should be expected to yield to kindly authority. Of course, there are dispositions which show petty tyranny when invested with power, but our school system of today is too carefully supervised to place the pupils in danger of being the subject of material injustice, especially if parents are in constant coöperation with the school.

The association between the sexes, if properly supervised, should result in a nice courtesy on the part of both. Too often the opposite is the actual result, and we find boys treating girl companions with rudeness and disrespect, and girls who in turn are forward and willing to permit liberties, the ultimate harm of which they

do not understand. In inadequate chaperonage of rides, picnics and evening gatherings lies great danger of a breaking down of the protecting wall of modesty and respect. Let us not fail to set standards in living and teaching of the type of girl who is truly worth while, whose conversation is intelligent and clear-cut and who is thorough, cheerful, capable, helpful and self-respecting; of the young man whose habits are irreproachable and purposes right. Remember, the aggregate of right impressions must overbalance the sum total of faulty ones or the difference will appear on the wrong side of the moral ledger.

The school curriculum should have a regular place, if but once a month—for the teaching of good manners as much as for the use of good English. The underlying principles of courtesy as an expression of Christian character is quite as important as knowledge of mathematical problems and Latin forms.

Some schools have secured excellent and easy results by writing a rule or maxim of correct deportment or an accepted rule of social usage on the blackboard daily or weekly. Sometimes this is not referred to because the thought is self-evident; again it is discussed briefly, or used as the point of an illustration. By this means the pupils are trained to know the "why" and "how," and are taught that good manners are not a mere social veneer, but an expression of kindly consideration for the rights of others. Good manners are like the samples of stock the merchant displays in his window. The goods displayed show what we may expect to find within!

Girls should be taught at school and at home to realize that upon their own moral integrity and purity of thought depends in large measure the future of the race; and boys should learn that the men of all time who have contributed to the progress and uplift of the race have been and are those who have respected and protected womanhood and been able to render definite, helpful service to

their fellows along some needed lines. The teaching of thrift should not be neglected, for here we have the future assurance of comforts and financial and moral solvency.

The schools gradually are assuming the responsibility, as indeed they should, for the vocational guidance of youth. Many a young man and young woman have followed the line of least resistance and have entered the wrong avenue of life, because there was no one to guide or direct

them. The world has lost much in wealth, discovery, invention and service, because so many have entered the wrong life activities and so have fallen short of their best. Discouragement and failure have driven many an one into a life of indifference and even crime.

The moral responsibility of the day school is no more today than ever it was, but it is awakening to the vision of the possibility of its own service.

Suggestions from Dr. Mary Sherwood, Chairman of Department of Obstetrics

The interests of mothers and babies cannot be better served than by securing adequate care and instruction for every mother before, during and after confinement. Nothing will so hasten this reform as a widespread demand from lay women. Such demand cannot intelligently be made until a large proportion of women have secured a knowledge of the appalling need for reform. May I, then, bespeak the coöperation of the State Presidents in the prompt appointment of chairmen of subcommittees who will inaugurate the necessary work?

QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questions are suggested to the state chairmen of subcommittees to serve as a basis for a study of local conditions of obstetrical practice. A report on the facts ascertained will without doubt arouse interest in the meetings of local associations and will stimulate a desire to bring about reforms. A few references are given and others will be added from time to time. Results of studies may be reported to state chairmen, who are requested to summarize them and send them to me for report at the annual meeting.

1. What proportion of confinements in your locality (city, county, or state) are attended by physicians? By midwives?

2. How many beds in your hospitals are available for maternity cases? Compare the number for medical and surgical cases.

3. Is there any organization in your vicinity giving prenatal care and instruction to expectant mothers?

4. Is there any organized effort to secure good care for poor women in confinement? Any association furnishing physician? Nurse? Caretaker? Baby clothes or other supplies?

5. Are any public funds available for needy cases?

REFERENCES

Reports of Section on Obstetrics of the American Association for Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality published in the Proceedings for 1911-1916.

Reports of the Children's Bureau: Prenatal Care, by Mrs. Max West, New Zealand Society for the Health of Women and Children.

Reports of the Children's Bureau: Bulletin on Maternal Mortality, by Dr. Grace R. Meigs.

A reprint of Dr. J. Whitridge Williams's address, "Medical Education and the Midwife Problem in the United States," will be sent on request to the chairmen of state committees.

A Propaganda for Better Obstetrics

By J. WHITRIDGE WILLIAMS

Professor of Obstetrics, Johns Hopkins University

I have been requested to comment in a few words upon the significance of the decision of the editor to devote an occasional page of the journal to a propaganda for better obstetrics, and to state why such a movement should interest women.

To the uninitiated it appears strange that a magazine devoted to the consideration of the problems concerning women should have delayed so long in instituting such a movement, and it would seem that the explanation must be sought in the erroneous belief that American women for years have received the best possible obstetrical care. That such a belief is unjustified will become evident to any one who will take the trouble to read the address which I delivered in 1911 before the Society for the Prevention of Infant Mortality, entitled "Medical Education and the Midwife Problem in the United States." In that article, which was based upon the answers of a large number of professors of obstetrics throughout the country to a questionnaire concerning the teaching and practice of obstetrics, and did not represent merely my personal opinion, it was clearly shown that the facilities for the education of medical students in this important subject were extremely faulty; that the results obtained by the average physician were scarcely, if any, better than those obtained by ignorant midwives; that fundamental research work was practically lacking; and that only two medical schools in the country were equipped with facilities for the ideal training of students, and the fostering of serious research. Since then some improvement has occurred, but the conditions will not be materially changed until the women of the country become acquainted with the facts and insist upon radical reorganization. **Consequently, I re-**

gard the present movement as the beginning of a campaign of education, which will eventually place obstetrics in America upon the same elevated plane as it has occupied for years in France and Germany.

Why is the question of practical interest to women? In the first place, since the fundamental biological function of woman is the bearing and rearing of healthy children, anything which will render that process more effective, less dangerous, and less painful will redound to the good of women in general, and leave them in such physical condition as to be more useful members of society after having fulfilled their maternal function.

Is it generally realized that a great part of the disabilities peculiar to women, and a large proportion of the operations to which they are subjected, are due to imperfect care at the time of labor, and could be prevented if all physicians practising obstetrics were properly trained? Is it realized that a large proportion of diseases and abnormalities leading to death during pregnancy and childbirth are preventable, and could have been avoided had medical students been afforded sufficient opportunity to become acquainted with their early recognition and treatment?

Is it realized that the death rate from puerperal infection throughout the country was slightly greater in 1913 than in 1890, although its cause has been definitely known for thirty-eight years, with the result that the disease has almost entirely disappeared from well-conducted lying-in hospitals? This is the only infectious disease which has not shown a marked decrease in mortality, and Dr. Grace Meigs, in a forthcoming publication from the Children's Bureau, will contrast this with the fact that the death rate from tuberculosis, infant diar-

rhoea, typhoid fever and diphtheria has diminished by 170, 185, 285 and 520 per cent., respectively, during the same period. Such a showing can only mean that our medical men are imperfectly trained in the prevention of this disease, or deliberately neglect to employ the necessary prophylactic measures, which is inconceivable.

Is it realized that at least one half of the children which die prematurely, or which perish at the time of labor or within the few weeks immediately following it, could be saved if intelligent prenatal care were universally practiced? Is it realized that a large proportion of the inmates of the blind asylums throughout the country owe their blindness to disease contracted at the time of birth, and that such disasters can be almost entirely obviated by simple prophylactic treatment? Yet most doctors and midwives fail to employ it, with the result that blindness due to this cause occurs as frequently as twenty years ago.

In the face of such statements,

which might be multiplied almost indefinitely, can the women of the country believe that a propaganda for better obstetrics is devoid of practical interest?

It would lead too far afield were I to attempt to detail the steps essential to reform. Many of them will later be brought to your attention in these columns, but I desire to refer to one of the most important, and that is the radical improvement of the obstetrical departments of our medical schools and universities. In the latter, I believe that this can best be effected by providing means for the erection and maintenance of properly equipped University Women's Clinics, which should be under the charge of scientifically trained professors, who shall not engage in private practice, but who shall devote their entire time to the care of hospital patients, the training of students and assistants, and the development of research, upon which all hope of future development and radical improvement must depend.

Grown-Up Days

By MRS. ELLA ADELE PECK.

"I am so very busy," said little Ethel May,
"I always am on Monday, for that is washing day,
My washing isn't very large, but really you would think,
If you should see the soiled clothes, that they'd been dipt in ink,

"For Dolly is the wostest child, she almost breaks my heart;
I dress her up so sweet and clean and she looks Oh! so smart,
I just keep from watching her as she starts off to school,
On every week day morning, when it is bright and cool.

"But if you only saw her when she comes home at night,
You wouldn't think so sweet a child could look so like a fright,

Her dress is torn and dirty, and her hat is all awry,
I feel so all discouraged, I just sit down and cry.

"And every day it's just the same, till Oh! it seems to me
That a really truly mother is a real hard thing to be;
But then I have my Dolly, so what am I to do?
I've got to keep her sweet and clean and watch her manners too.

"So you see why I'm so busy on every Monday morn,
My little Dolly needs my care to keep her clean and warm,
And I'd rather work myself to death for my precious darling child,
Than take my ease and know that she was just a running wild."

Twenty-First Annual Child-Welfare Conference of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

One hundred thousand women from every section of the country are looking forward now to the triennial meeting of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. It will be held as usual in Washington, D. C., April 24 to May 1, and most of its sessions will be in the Hotel Raleigh, which will also be the headquarters of the convention. Our programs have always been full of interest, bearing, as they do, on the most vital questions of our daily lives, and the outlook for the coming series of conferences is more than usually interesting, tinged as they must inevitably be with the great world problems which threaten to invade our peaceful lives.

A special feature of this convention will be a series of popular "meetings for mothers" held in the auditorium of Woodward and Lothrop's store. There will also be at the auditorium a Child-Welfare Exhibit of matters pertaining to the needs of mothers and their children.

The vast work of the Congress as carried on by its officers and state branches will be a surprising and illuminating revelation. An entire session will be devoted to the problems of presidents.

One evening will be given to a musicale under the direction of Madame von Unschuld, a noted musician

and President of the Conservatory of Music. Subjects such as "The Training of Youth for Citizenship," "Responsibility of the Home and the School in Preventing Crime," "The Mother's Influence in the Lives of Great Men and Women of Our Own Time," "What the Government Does for Children," "Schools Conducted by Business Firms," "Home Education," "Helps for the Recent Immigrant Mother," "Some Menaces to Youth in Fashionable Social Life," will be treated by experts who speak with authority and will make an especial appeal. We reckon our mothers' clubs and circles among the thousands now, and would be glad if every one of them could send at least one delegate to catch the glow of the fires which are kindled at our great national gatherings and take it back to inspire anew every remotest circle in the land. They will meet their sisters at informal teas arranged for every afternoon. There will be a motor trip to Rock Creek Park with folk dances and motion songs by Camp Fire Girls. A banquet with talks by distinguished speakers and reminiscences of twenty years of earnest work and delightful associations will be a fitting close to the week's convention.

MARY E. MUMFORD.

A Mother's Appeal for Help to Find Her Lost Boy

On May 12, 1915, James Douglas Glass, 4 years old, was kidnapped. He was last seen in Greeley, Pike Co., Pa. Since then with every effort made, no clew of the child has been discovered. The mother earnestly desires that publicity shall be given to the loss of this child, and that the whole country shall be informed. Every mother will certainly do all in her power to aid in getting a clew, if possible, to the whereabouts of this little boy. He has a fair complexion, light hair and blue eyes. It is supposed that he was kidnapped by a woman and two men who drove a Ford car.

Any information will be treated confidentially. Communicate with CHARLES GLASS, 13 Lienau Place, Jersey City, N. J.

Program for Parent-Teacher Associations for April

The Programs given from month to month require the service of three members of the association for each meeting. They develop home talent, at the same time providing papers of educational value in child-nurture. They ensure a high standard for the season's meetings, and awaken wider interest in child-welfare as the members learn of the movement throughout the world.

FIRST TOPIC—MORAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DAY SCHOOL.

SECOND TOPIC (To be assigned to another member).

WHAT OTHER PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS ARE DOING. See STATE NEWS.

THIRD TOPIC (To be assigned to third member).

CURRENT NEWS OF WORK FOR CHILD-WELFARE, gleaned from all sources, both local and international.

LOAN PAPERS ON CHILD-NURTURE

Send for the printed list of Loan Papers on Child Nurture and Child Welfare prepared especially for program use. The list will be sent free, provided stamp is enclosed. The papers are type-written. Twelve may be selected and kept for the season at a cost of \$2.00.

They have been written by specialists to meet the needs of parents in dealing with problems of child life at different stages of its development. Single papers will be sent for twenty-five cents and may be kept three weeks. Many new papers have been added to the list.

Every Parent-Teacher Association needs the 1917 Year Book National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. Free to Presidents of Parent-Teacher Associations in membership in the Congress. To others, Price 10 cents. National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, 910 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

READING COURSE FOR PARENTS

Sent free on application to Department of Interior Home, Education Division, Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

Work for Child Welfare by Parents and Teachers in National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

STATE NEWS

IMPORTANT NOTICES

News items from the States must be in the hands of the editorial board by the tenth of the previous month to ensure their appearance in the next magazine. The editorial board earnestly asks attention to the necessity of complying with this rule.

The magazine invites wider correspondence with local circles and associations. Send us reports of what you are doing. It will be helpful to others.

The necessity for brevity will be realized, as space is limited and every month more states send news. News is **WORK DONE, OR NEW WORK PLANNED**. Communications must be written with ink or typewritten.

The **CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE** offers to every **NEW** circle of fifty members one year's subscription free provided that with the application for the magazine is enclosed a receipt from state treasurer showing that dues of ten cents per capita have been paid, and second a list of officers and members with their addresses.

This offer is made to aid new circles with their program and to give them the opportunity to become acquainted with the great organized parenthood of America.

Subscribers to **CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE** should notify the publishers before the 15th of the current month if the magazine is not received. Back numbers cannot be furnished unless failure to receive the magazine is immediately noted.

ALABAMA

In celebration of the twentieth birthday of the National Mothers' Congress and Parent-Teacher Association, the three Montgomery Mothers' Circles met with Mrs. M. B. Kirkpatrick as individual hostess, and with the Mothers' Circle as club hostess, to the Mothers Round Table and the United Mothers.

A huge cake with twenty candles was placed on a table and as each candle was lighted by the state president of Mothers' Clubs, Mrs. N. J. Bagley of Birmingham, some member responded with a toast to the work that was in progress.

Mrs. Bagley in giving a history of the work of child welfare said when women learned that one out of every seven babies died before reaching the age of one year, they decided it was time to start something. Their first slogan was "Save the Babies." Next came "Educate the Mothers," until now every state in the United States has mothers' circles affiliating with the national organization.

Mrs. Bagley told of the splendid work that is being done in and around Birmingham by the Mothers' Circles, especially at Ensley, where a bed is maintained in a hospital for children who are ill.

T. C. J. CO. DISTRICT

"The Tennessee Coal and Iron Company's physician of Birmingham," said the speaker, "has organized the mothers of that district into circles and they are being educated to the proper care of the babies, of the mothers

and of the home. This is greatly reducing infant mortality, adult disease and putting more happiness into those homes than anything that has ever been done in that direction before."

Mrs. H. G. Doster, of Prattville, President of the Mothers' Club of that place, said it was a pity that all the business education should be given to the boys, when the girls, when they became women and housekeepers, spent seventy-five per cent. of the money. Another point clearly made by Mrs. Doster was that no work was menial unless the one who did it made it so and that women, and men, would always find their occupation menial if they did it half way.

63 GIRLS MAKE GOOD

Statistics were given by the Prattville president showing that sixty-three girls paid their own way to city high school by marketing their own products and canned goods.

ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

The Birmingham circles of the Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations joined the national celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the organization, which falls on February 17.

The Child Study Circles were entertained by Mrs. R. J. Strickland, and Mrs. T. A. Burbidge, of Ensley, entertained the Ensley and Shadyside Mothers' Clubs. The Woodlawn Club held its celebration at the Woodlawn Library. The Martin School Improvement and Minerva Club held a joint meeting

with 150 present with Miss Rosa Strickland as the speaker of the afternoon.

The Twentieth Century Mothers' Circle of Ensley has had an average attendance of at least 80 per cent. all winter. A number of new members have been added to the roll and about one half the members are subscribers to *THE CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE*.

Work for the Anti-tuberculosis Association through the distribution of banks to the members was taken up and already quite a neat sum has been realized.

Baby Welfare Day has been observed with a special program by a prominent baby specialist.

A Lincoln Penny offering was given on the fourteenth of February in observance of the twentieth anniversary of Child-Welfare Work.

CALIFORNIA

The South San Joaquin Federation held a most successful Child-Welfare-Day meeting at Ripon.

Eleven new Parent-Teacher Associations have become members of the Congress.

The Pasadena Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations celebrated Child-Welfare Day February 17. Mrs. Henry Harman, former president of the Vermont branch of the Congress, was the speaker. Mrs. Charles C. Noble, president of the Los Angeles Federation, has hospitably welcomed and entertained many Congress leaders from other states.

The county organizations are many in California and they make it possible to call mass meetings at any time when notable people visit the state. Mrs. Milton P. Higgins and Miss Lucy Wheelock, of Boston, have visited Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona and California during February and March.

Every City and County President in California has a seat on the State Board, where she gets a better knowledge of the work and can receive instructions how to carry it out. In this way better results are attained all over the state.

GLENDALE

A reception to the teachers of Glendale schools was given in the High School Auditorium by the Parent-Teacher Associations.

The High School Orchestra furnished the music.

Prof. Jerome Hall Raymond, of the University of California Extension Course, has given three illustrated lectures to the Parent-Teacher Associations. More money for elementary schools is urged by the State Commissioner, Dr. Schallenberger. Four Reading Circles which are well attended are connected with the schools. Much has been done in

emergency work. Mrs. Geo. E. Adams, 1450 Ivy St., is chairman of publicity.

CONNECTICUT

The attention and energies of the clubs of the state have been bent on advancing three bills which have been presented to the present session of the legislature, viz., the Child-Welfare bill, the Women's Reformatory bill and the Juvenile Court bill. Signatures have been obtained and addresses given to bring these matters before the public, and Connecticut hopes soon to see these laws in force throughout the state. New clubs which have been invited to come into the Congress are the Mothers' Club, Darien; School League, Guilford; Mothers' Club, Greenfield Hill, Fairfield; Read School Parent-Teacher Association, Bridgeport.

The executive board appointed four delegates to the Women's Council of Education, and a committee composed of Mrs. H. Wooster Webber, Mrs. B. L. Mott, and Mrs. Osgood H. Wells which was appointed to look into the revision of the constitution was heard. The annual state convention will be held in Bridgeport April 13 and 14. Dean Brown and Lieut.-Governor Wilson are expected to speak.

DELAWARE

The annual meeting of the Delaware Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was held in the Peoples Church, in Dover, February 8, 1917, with the President, Mrs. Garrett S. Harrington, in the chair. Reports of officers were read and approved, and delegates elected to attend the National Convention in Washington in April from each county.

An address by the President was filled with good suggestions. She spoke of the twentieth anniversary of the National Congress on February 17, and asked all societies or individuals to make a contribution to the National on that day. Mrs. Cleaver gave the report of New Castle County, which showed much activity in the county in many lines. Kent County report was given by the Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jones, which also made our hearts glad as she told of the progress made. It speaks well for our President and Secretary that Harrington Association held the banner in amount of work done. A library of 75 volumes for Harrington schools was just one of the many good things done.

Dr. Mitchell, President of Delaware College, suggested that two women should be appointed in each locality to visit the homes of children who attend school irregularly. He said out of 1,000 children who begin

school, only 100 enter high school and only 14 finish a college course. The report of Sussex County showed interest, effort and progress.

Reviews of the work of the counties were given by Superintendents Cross and Hardesty. Dr. Cross urged the placing of libraries in all schools. Mr. Hardesty spoke on the proposed change in school laws.

Dover school children sang, led by Mrs. Davidson, the new vocal instructor for the school. Dr. Wagner moved that a committee be appointed to draft resolutions as an outcome of the day's work. The following persons were appointed by the chair: Dr. Wagner, Mrs. Lightner and Mrs. Waples.

Mrs. Augustus H. Reeve, National Vice-Chairman of County Life, gave an excellent address on "Getting Things Done." She spoke of the possibilities of the rural Parent-Teacher Associations, and as a great many of the delegates represented rural associations, they received many practical suggestions.

The Delaware Congress was honored by having Mrs. Schoff, our National President, at the meeting, who gave an inspirational talk on the rapid growth of the work.

Dr. P. P. Claxton, National Commissioner of Education, spoke on the educational movement of today, and called it the biggest thing in the world outside of one's soul salvation and even said perhaps that would not be possible if we neglected the other. He said the average time that Delaware boys and girls spent in school was only 6,000 hours for whole life. In speaking of the neglected children he said that 300,000 children under five years die every year in the United States and that it was just as serious and just as great a loss as if they were killed by Germans or Japs as an invading enemy. He said we are guilty—we could save them and it need not be charged up to Providence, but to our "improvidence." Men charge up to Providence what they bring on themselves. In giving some statistics he said in Delaware 25 children out of 100 enter high school, 10 out of 100 graduate. All should know, he said, of the reading circle and all boys and girls should be on the reading list.

Rev. Mabel Irwin, chairman of social hygiene, spoke on "Some Rights of Children."

Dr. Wagner asked the members to interest themselves and work for the passage of the following bills that are before the Legislature, viz., for feeble-minded, for tax revision, for supervising teachers, for appointment of committee to revise and reconstruct school system, and for bill appropriating \$15,000 for schools to equal or match the sum put up by the federal government.

ILLINOIS

In Havana, during the month of February, in nearly every home in the city there were young Americans sawing, planing, whittling or nailing at every spare moment, preparing bird houses to be entered in the big bird house exhibit, March 13, under the auspices of the Havana Parent-Teacher Association.

Several sets of plans were purchased and placed in every school.

All kinds of material were used by the youthful architects. Some used lumber, limbs of trees, concrete or stucco, etc. There were also nesting shelves and bird baths exhibited for prizes.

The exhibitors were divided into five classes, but an individual could enter as many different houses as he wished, provided he conformed to the required classification. The first prize was worth \$1.50, second \$1.00 for houses for blue-bird group. Similar prizes were offered for other groups.

Bird houses were built for the following varieties of birds: Blue-birds, nuthatch, chickadee, woodpecker, martins, catbird, wren, owl, sparrow hawk.

MANTENO

Glowing reports come from the new Parent-Teacher Association at Manteno.

Everyone feels that great good is coming to home and school, through the Parent-Teacher Association. The prevailing thought is that the Parent-Teacher Association opens a new world for thinking people. It helps to direct the mental life of individuals to better lines. It draws parents and teachers closer together for the good of the children and the community.

GALESBURY HITCHCOCK SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The February program was an observance of Founder's Day. The history of the Parent-Teacher movement from its birth in Washington twenty years ago and the founding of the state organization, was splendidly reviewed by Mrs. C. B. Ripley.

The breadth and scope of the work was further brought out by a primer exercise led by Mrs. H. B. Griffiths. A list of the various branches of the work had been placed in alphabetical order upon the blackboard and these were read in concert, stopping to note the ones that have been accomplished by their own association.

The Hitchcock Association took action supporting the effort to provide wholesome pictures for the children, and it is hoped the mothers will do their part.

Arrangements are made to secure an expert play director for the school playground.

The Weston Parent-Teacher Association gave a patriotic Child-Welfare-Day program at their February meeting. Flags were used to decorate the rooms.

The Cooke Parent-Teacher Circle gave a Founder's Day program February 19.

At the High School Parent-Teacher Circle, the program was given by the dramatic art department of the school.

RUSHVILLE CELEBRATES CHILD-WELFARE DAY

At Rushville 112 citizens gathered to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. The program dealt largely with the work and possibilities of the child-welfare movement.

It will surely interest all who are working for a "Better Community" to know that the appeal of Superintendent Knapp to the boys of the four highest grades of the Webster School met with the following encouraging results: The thirty boys in the fifth and sixth grades all pledged themselves to abstain from tobacco in any form, while the forty boys of the seventh and eighth grades decided to abstain from cigarettes till the age of 19, all but nine agreeing not to smoke a pipe and all but eleven not to smoke cigars. Pledge cards are being signed by the boys worded thus: Realizing the injurious effects of the use of tobacco in boyhood, I agree to abstain from it in the following forms: All Forms, Chewing, Pipes, Cigars, Cigarettes. (Place a cross before the forms of tobacco against which you pledge yourself.)

The anti-tobacco committee was authorized to proceed on whatever lines they deemed advisable in their endeavor to secure the enforcement of the laws relating to the sale of tobacco to minors and of those concerning pool-room regulations.

DECATUR

One of the most splendid gatherings ever held in the H. B. Durfee school neighborhood was held with Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, president of the Illinois Congress of Mothers, who gave an interesting and instructive talk on the value to the community of parent-teacher organizations. Probably 350 people were in attendance. Mrs. Langworthy reviewed the phases of the work of the Congress of Mothers, and emphasized the need of parent-teacher associations uniting with the state organization. She said the state organization holds before its associations constantly an ideal of constructive and sympathetic coöperation with the schools. Med-

dling is discountenanced and attention is directed to higher standards of home life and parenthood.

INDIANA

The Annual Conference of the Indiana branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was held in Indianapolis, February 8.

Mrs. Orville T. Bright, National Vice-President, attended the conference.

Mrs. Charles W. Wittenbraker, of Evansville, Indiana, was chosen as president; Mrs. S. N. Crouse, of Lafayette, a vice-president; Mrs. J. R. McCully, of Idaville, recording secretary.

Mrs. Wittenbraker is a graduate of the National Kindergarten College and an ardent believer in the National Congress of Mothers. When she learned that Mrs. Schoff would pass through Evansville returning from the Conference of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations at Kansas City, Mo., she arranged a meeting of all the Parent-Teacher Associations in that district on March 9. A dinner attended by Superintendent Mrs. Benezet, of the Board of Education, school principals and officers of Parent-Teacher Associations, to meet the National President was given. Much enthusiasm was shown. Evansville will entertain the State Congress at its next meeting in October.

KANSAS

The Biennial Convention of the Kansas Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was held at Wichita, Kansas, March 5, 6, 7, 1917.

On March 5, at Carnegie Library Building, a reception to Mrs. Frederic Schoff, National President, the officers of the Kansas Branch, and the delegates to the convention was given by the Wichita Council of the Presidents.

With the earnest purpose to raise the standards of the home life and develop wiser and better trained parenthood, mothers of Kansas opened their first session of the first biennial of the Kansas Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in the auditorium of the Wichita High School, March 5. If there is any difference among women to retard coöperation, such is laid aside by these noble mothers, who do not look upon the bank account of members of their association as the all-important qualification for leadership. The thing that counts most at this biennial is the worthwhileness of the women who are the pioneers in Kansas in the greatest organiza-

tion of women in the world, that of the National Congress of Mothers.

MRS. KING WELCOMED THEM

Mrs. Cooper King, president of the Wichita Council of Presidents of the Parent-Teacher Association, welcomed the women who are here from all parts of Kansas. The principal address of the morning was then made by Henry J. Allen, who spoke of the important mission of the Mothers' Congress in retaining the sanctity of the home, and that this is the organization through which will come the greater and better fatherhood, motherhood and teacherhood of the world.

"The Parent-Teacher movement is nationwide and offers the greatest of opportunities for child study," said Mrs. Frederic Schoff, of Philadelphia, national president and head of the Home Education Division of the United States Bureau of Education in Washington, in her talk at the round table conference for the afternoon session. Mrs. Schoff explained in detail the purposes and methods of the Congress.

The acting president, Mrs. F. M. Stanley, presiding officer, told of the work done in her home city, Kansas City, Kans., through the women of the Parent-Teacher Associations who censor the films for children out of the Kansas City office. While the work was met with opposition at first, today the films there are booked several days ahead on the list of films selected by these women. Mrs. Stanley suggested that Wichita women seek to use the list here.

Miss Ella Woodyard of the Kansas City, Kans., Association told of how the women there have secured children's matinees and family nights at the picture houses, playgrounds and the school gardens. Mrs. Ming told of the work of the Wichita associations in furthering garden work, playground interest, and explained the securing of the health supervisor and the free clinics.

REPORT OF THE HISTORIAN

The report of the historian was made by Mrs. M. L. Alden, of Kansas City. At the close of the morning session the women went to the Plymouth Congregational Church, where the women of that church served a two-course luncheon. Miss Anna Thornton Jones, of the Wichita High School, was toastmistress. Talks were made by Judge Jesse Wall, of the Board of Education; Mrs. Jessie Wright Whitcomb, Topeka, and Mrs. George Stein, Kansas City.

"It is a popular belief that the country is the healthiest and best place to raise children. Such is not the case, as statistics will prove.

Our school record shows that there is a much greater prevalence of preventable diseases in the country than in the city at the present time. What we need is better school buildings in the country, and better medical supervision of country pupils."

Such was the statement of State Superintendent Ross at the session of the Kansas Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations convention in Wichita.

ELECTION RESULTS

The election of officers resulted in the following selections: Mrs. J. K. Coddington, Lansing, President; Mrs. Cooper King, Wichita, Mrs. B. F. Martin, Newton, Mrs. Guy Varney, Manhattan, Mrs. Lawrence Becker, Cherryvale, Mrs. George Sower, Spring Hill, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. J. S. Detwiler, Kansas City, Treasurer; Mrs. C. B. Warkentin, Newton, Auditor; Mrs. E. R. Penny, Kansas City, Historian; Mrs. W. E. Louder, Wichita, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Clara E. Mallory, Leavenworth, Corresponding Secretary.

The dinner at the high school was attended by about 160 guests. A center table for the speakers was made the point of radiation for the other tables. All of the tables of mahogany were decorated with yellow and brown, and the color scheme was carried out over the entire banquet hall. Mrs. McMann acted as toastmistress for this dinner.

The big event of the evening session was the address by Mrs. Frederic Schoff, National President, on "Opportunities for Service for Parents and Children."

MAINE

At the February meeting of the Gardiner Parent-Teacher Association, at which Henry E. Dunnack, State Librarian, spoke on "Educational Problems," he said: "Teaching is not primarily the work for boys and girls, but for those of mature years; the day will come when we will welcome as teacher the mother of children when we can find her." He made the statement that to teach the football team to play the game by the rules is much finer than winning the game. Right living, right thinking and right doing are fundamental, and these are to be received as much from teachers as from the books. The school committee should leave the superintendent unhampered to work out the problems of the school.

In Woodland, Maine, at the February meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association, fully one hundred citizens were present. An address on "Home Economics" was given by

Miss Frances Freeman, of the University of Maine. The month of February being the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Parent-Teacher Association of America, a short story of the Association, its aims and good work already accomplished was read by Mrs. Harry Townsend, Vice-President of the Woodland Association. A special song, composed for this particular meeting and published by the National Congress of Mothers, was sung by the Woodland Glee Club.

The new high school building was inspected by the citizens.

MASSACHUSETTS

February 16, 1917, will go down as one of the most important days in the history of the Massachusetts Branch. On that day the Middlesex County Conference and the Hampden and Hampshire County Conference were held.

The Middlesex County Conference was held at Stoneham under the direction of the Councillor, Mrs. Earl W. Smith, at the invitation of the Stoneham Parent-Teacher Association, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. Delegates were present from Bedford, Belmont, Malden, Medford, Newton, Stoneham, Wakefield and Watertown, besides eight members of the State Executive Board. Many associations outside the county were represented also.

The morning session was given over to the discussion of the problems of the associations.

Mrs. Earl W. Smith explained the three-fold objects of the conference: (1) Inspiration, (2) Extension work and (3) the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. Mrs. J. Walter Storey, President of the Stoneham Parent-Teacher Association, welcomed those attending the conference. A letter from our State President, Mrs. M. P. Higgins, from Oklahoma, described most interestingly her trip through the west, the various meetings she had attended and the progress of the work in that part of the country and urged more publicity work through the newspapers. Mr. Arthur B. Webber, superintendent of schools, gave greetings and testified to the advantage of the Parent-Teacher Association in Stoneham. As Mrs. D. O. Mears, National Chairman for Child-Welfare Day, could not be present, Mrs. W. L. Smith told of the formation and growth of the National Organization and of the plans for saving Lincoln Pennies in a Lincoln Log Cabin.

Rev. Howard Chiley, of Winchester, gave

an inspiring talk on "The Mind of a Boy." An interesting half hour was spent in listening to the methods used by different mothers to produce desired results.

Supt. A. B. Webber presided at the evening session. Speakers were: Mr. W. H. White, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen; Mrs. W. L. Smith, on "The Benefits of the Parent-Teacher Association to Childhood"; Mrs. E. M. Barney, on "Partnership With God," a plea for a definite plan on the part of parents to train children in the spiritual qualities of reverence, righteousness and responsibility.

An exhibition of Educational Motion Pictures for schools was given by Lincoln, Parker & Co., of Worcester, illustrating how geography and other subjects might be more interestingly taught. The films shown represented the industries of fishing, lumbering, log driving, pottery-making, granite quarrying and some views in Alaska. A collection of \$13 was taken at the afternoon and evening sessions for Child-Welfare Offering.

The second conference of Hampden and Hampshire Counties was held at West Springfield in the High School Hall and the theme throughout the day was the coöperation in the education of the child, whether in home or school. Delegates were present from all the associations in the counties and also four state executive board members.

Mrs. Horace T. Smith, a member of the West Springfield School Board, gave the welcome. Mrs. S. H. Whitten, the Councillor, presided, emphasizing the call for more organization work, the helping of weak associations, learning from the strong and linking the work of this organization, which is the only one whose chief aim and purpose is to directly influence every home and every child for the development of a better future citizenship, with the other county organizations who in some department are interested in Child-Welfare.

Mrs. J. E. Weatherwax and Mrs. Helena Richardson, both members of the State Board, opened the Round Table discussion on "What the Parent-Teacher Association Is" and "How Does It Work?"; Mrs. E. W. Kroepel, President of the Central Council of Holyoke Parent-Teacher Associations, on "What It Has Done," and Mrs. J. B. Newton, of Holyoke, on "Conditions as They Indicate Increasing Usefulness in State and Nation."

A box luncheon was served, during which the presidents gave short talks on their own work and the problems in their local associations.

Speakers were: Principal Cowing, of the High School, Miss Eunice Crane, special agent of the Children's Bureau at Washing-

ton, D. C., Mr. George W. Winslow, principal of the Westfield Normal School, and Superintendent of Schools, Mr. John R. Fausey. A roll call of the associations in the county was called and each organization responded with a contribution of Lincoln Pennies for Child-Welfare Day offering. About \$34 was given.

Mrs. Henry M. Bowden, of Springfield, gave an excellent talk on "Child Legislation." Rev. Arthur W. Bailey, educational secretary of the Congregational Society of New England, spoke on "The Movies and the Community" and told of the benefits and disadvantages of the motion pictures. Mr. Francis McSherry, superintendent of Holyoke Schools, gave an interesting talk on "Thrift for Young America" and told of the organization and growth of the local school savings bank which plan was originated by the Parent-Teacher Associations of that city.

Resolutions were adopted for improvement of the mothers' pension law in Massachusetts, for observance of Baby Week in early spring, for a separate juvenile court for children and offenders against children in every county, for study of conditions of child labor in each community and report to the Massachusetts Child Labor Commission, and for Parent-Teacher Associations in high schools.

MISSOURI

KANSAS CITY

Having Mrs. Frederic Schoff, our National President, with us during the National Education Association meeting will long be remembered with a great deal of pleasure. It was indeed an inspiration to every one who heard the message she brought.

The State Board Meeting was held during the National Education Association meeting.

The resignation of our State President, Mrs. W. H. Jobe, came as a great blow. It was accepted with great regret. Mrs. Jobe has been most active in Parent-Teacher work since it began in Kansas City and will be greatly missed all over the state. She left March 3, for Pittsburg, Pa., her future home. The good wishes of her co-workers go with her. She will not only be a loss to Kansas City, but to the state at large.

Mrs. J. H. Sheldon, first Vice-President, will fill the unexpired term. She has been a most successful organizer in the state.

Mrs. Wm. Ullman, of Springfield, was elected acting Vice-President, Miss Mary McCulloch, of St. Louis, was also elected acting Vice-President.

The out-of-town guests at the board meeting were Mrs. J. B. McBride, of Springfield, Mrs. Wm. Ullman, also of Springfield,

Mrs. C. Glenn Symms, of Nevada, Miss Ella Victoria Dobbs, of Columbia, Mrs. B. J. Bless, of Weston, Mrs. A. L. Yingling and Mrs. Robert Miller, of Independence.

Founder's Day Rally was February 27, at the Central Methodist Church. The morning session was given largely to committee work and round table conferences. In the afternoon Philander P. Claxton, Commissioner of Education, discussed "What the Parent-Teacher Association may do for Public Schools of the Country." Mrs. Schoff gave a most interesting address.

The afternoon of February 28 and March 1, the National Congress held a Conference with the National Education Association at the Hotel Muehlbach.

A beautiful luncheon was given by the National Congress March 2, at the Hotel Muehlbach; there were 10 speakers selected from different states, all prominent educators; Mrs. Schoff presided most charmingly.

The Kansas City Council gave a reception to the national and state officers at the Coates House March 2; it was a delightful affair.

ST. LOUIS PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS CELEBRATE CHILD-WELFARE DAY

Child-Welfare Day was most delightfully celebrated on February 26. Mrs. Schoff, of Philadelphia, was the guest of honor. The St. Louis and St. Louis County Council of Mothers' Circles and Parent-Teacher Associations gave a luncheon and reception at the Grover Cleveland High School. Mrs. Schoff spoke on "Opportunities of Service for Mothers and Children."

Monett has 17 new members, and the Child-Welfare Day exercises were most delightful.

Excelsior Springs, with its three circles, is extending its activities along the line of playgrounds. In a recently given operetta, in which 75 children took part, the Parent-Teacher Association mothers bought and made the costumes, which enabled the children whose mothers worked to take part.

The Isley School Circle secured a quarter-day holiday for the teachers and gave a luncheon with a program, in order that the parents and teachers could discuss their mutual interests.

Delegates were sent from three circles to Kansas City to the National Education Association meeting, a mother and a teacher from each circle.

Telegrams were sent to the legislature from our circles, urging the passing of the Children's Code.

Leeds has 55 members in its Parent-Teacher

Association. They have held meetings every month with speakers from Kansas City.

Marshfield Parent-Teacher Association planned and secured donations to build a concrete bridge at a cost of \$200 over a little stream that was a menace to the children on the east side of our district. It is the only rural Parent-Teacher Association in Webster County.

SPRINGFIELD'S CONFERENCE ON CHILD-WELFARE

The Springfield Council of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations extended invitations to all the Parent-Teacher Circles of southwest Missouri—also to all teachers, principals, county and city superintendents—to a Conference on Child-Welfare, March 2, 3 and 4.

About fifty circles were represented and the meetings were such a success in every way that the southwestern part of the state was organized, and such meetings will be held regularly twice a year. Mrs. M. J. Hale, of Monett, one of the state vice-presidents, was elected president of this section, and Miss Frances Willhite, of Nevada, was made secretary. The object is to give help to the small new circles and to instruct them about the state and national work.

In every step the Springfield Council had the hearty indorsement and active coöperation of the school authorities, which is undoubtedly one of the reasons for their splendid success.

Many of the rural circles and circles in schools of small towns have been organized by the teachers.

The Springfield people felt that they were most fortunate in having the National President, Mrs. Frederic Schoff, as their guest on this occasion.

No one else could have given so much inspiration; no one else could have filled her audiences with an enthusiasm that will go far toward working out the problems of the children; no one else could have presented the broad field this organization of mothers now stretches over, as could Mrs. Schoff.

Springfield will long remember her visit.

On the program were the following topics:

Friday Evening, March 2

St. Paul's Church

Modern Methods of Criminal Reform.

Prof. L. L. Bernard, State University.

Our Greene County Juvenile Problem.

Judge Arch A. Johnson.

Saturday, March 3

Heer's Auditorium.

Value of Parent-Teacher Associations to Rural Schools. Superintendent Charles W. McCroskey.

Some Worth While Things a Parent-Teacher Organization May Do. Miss Yowell, Primary Supervisor.

The Individual and the Parent-Teacher Association. Mrs. Frederic Schoff.

Round Table Discussion: What Shall We Do with Our Boys and Girls During Vacation? Luncheon at Heer's Tea Room.

The Relation of the Teacher to the Parent-Teacher Association. President W. T. Carrington.

Character Building—A Common Ground for Effort for Both Parent and Teacher. Superintendent W. W. Thomas.

Personal Expression. Prof. E. E. Dodd, Principal High School.

The Neglected Field of Child Study. Prof. Theodore W. Irion, State Normal School.

General Discussion of the Departmental Work of a Parent-Teacher Association. Mrs. William Ullmann, Mrs. Karl Eaton, and others.

Sunday, March 4

South Street Christian Church.

Invocation. Rev. F. L. Moffett.

Music.

The Spiritual Development of the Child. Mrs. Schoff.

MONTANA

Our indefatigable State Chairman of "Children's Films," Mrs. J. W. Chivers, of Helena, succeeded in securing "Alice in Wonderland" for several places in the state, where large crowds of children enjoyed it. In Helena, representatives of the Woman's Club, and of the Mothers' Club acted as matrons at the performance.

The following is an extract from a circular letter sent through the state by Mrs. Chivers:

"It is strange but true that there is yet work left in the way of educating the mothers of Montana to the danger of impressions received at moving-picture shows. They do not realize that the child's mind is like an imperishable phonograph record and that they must be careful of the impressions received. A splendid mother told me the other day that she blames the influence of picture shows for one of her boys going astray. She said: 'I never attended them myself and I didn't know what pictures he was seeing.'

"Our local manager was fully convinced last week that children's films are appreciated

in Helena. When we, of the Parent-Teacher Association, saw by the papers that "Snow White" was to be shown, we asked Mr. Hartwig if our children could have a matinee at 4 P. M. He said: "Yes, if we would cooperate with him." We were given permission to announce it through the schools and about 850 saw the film; many could not gain admittance."

Through the generosity of Mrs. David O. Mears, our Parent-Teacher Associations have had her splendid Child-Welfare Day Programs.

The following account of the good use made of them in Helena proves their value.

"The Twentieth Anniversary of the founding of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was enthusiastically celebrated in Helena. All of the schools of the city, together with those of East Helena and the Child-Welfare Association joined in presenting a program of unusual interest and merit.

"Considerable publicity had been given the meeting through the papers and schools and the auditorium was packed with patrons and friends. The interest manifested speaks much for the esteem in which the community holds these organizations.

"City Superintendent Dietrich, who has rendered inestimable assistance to the Parent-Teacher Circles gave an address of welcome, in which he set forth their purposes and accomplishments.

"The three tableaux were splendidly presented. In the Child-Welfare Clock a child's face replaced the numerals on the dial as each hour was chimed. *Mother love* was represented by the fortunate mother and children in a happy home stretching forth helping hands to the homeless waifs. This tableau fittingly followed Mrs. Sherlock's address and the tableau Four Corner Stones of Society, Home, School, Church and State, was particularly effective. As each scene was presented the corner stone represented was lighted showing the name by means of a transparency.

"The intricate flag drill by the East Helena school called forth liberal applause. The Scottish folk dance adequately represented the physical education department, while the songs and orchestral music were the work of the music department of the public schools.

"The kindergarten orchestra captivated the audience. The Child-Welfare Association was represented by two numbers, a song and an instrumental trio. Perhaps no more significant comment could be made than this: that in spite of storm and bitter cold, the largest hall in Helena could not seat the

crowd which attended this anniversary celebration."

Mrs. H. L. Sherlock's address, entitled "The Mother a Citizen," had in it among other splendid things these words:

"Motherhood and mother-love cannot be exclusive—they are all-embracing. The mother heart broods over the world—the mother arms enfold all the children of men. All the problems of humanity are mother problems, and I cannot truly mother my own children until I am a universal mother; and I am not a good citizen of my own home until I am a world citizen."

NEW JERSEY

It is the good fortune of New Jersey to add another County Council to those already formed, since on March 3 Gloucester County Council held its organization meeting in the Central Baptist Church, Woodbury.

After a few minutes of silent prayer and a short address of welcome by Mrs. A. F. Meschter, the latter was made temporary chairman and Mrs. R. G. Slifer, of Woodbury, temporary secretary.

Mrs. Augustus H. Reeve explained the purpose of the Council. She said, among other things, that six years ago there were twenty-two organizations in membership in the state, now there are twenty-one in Gloucester County alone, Union County being the only county ahead. Gloucester is the first county to organize under the new County Constitution.

The following officers were elected:

Chairman, Mrs. J. G. Sholl, Pitman.

Vice-Chairman, Miss Martha B. Taylor, Swedesboro.

Secretary, Mrs. A. R. Kohler, Almonesson.

Treasurer, Mrs. E. H. Sapp, Sewell.

The speaker of the afternoon was Mr. D. T. Steelmans, county superintendent of public schools, who spoke of the advantages to a community of a parent-teacher organization, and of his sympathy with the work. An informal and hearty discussion followed this address, showing interest in the work and the desire to make the associations count for good.

Although the Constitution called for meetings to be held "not less than twice a year" it was unanimously decided to hold them four times, and the next meeting will be in Woodbury, in May.

The New Jersey Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations held its Annual State Council of Officers, Managers and Club Presidents, in the Prospect Street Presbyterian Church, Trenton, March 17.

This was not a business meeting, but an opportunity for presidents to discuss plans

for progressive work, while suggestions as well as information from available literature were offered by the state chairmen. The inspiration gained by this convention of all officers and presidents working for the same aims and purposes is of untold value.

Special emphasis was laid on the enforcement of the Truant Act by teaching regular attendance; the enforcement of special classes for defective and retarded children; the support of newly appointed "helping teachers"; by increasing interest in rural schools; the demand for better teachers and the requirement of two years of normal training, or its equivalent, for all teachers in the primary grades. The Council resolved to secure speakers on subjects pertaining to local needs, and to take notes of important subjects in order that they might be given out for open discussion at the following meeting.

Since there is to be in the future an all-day session of Parent-Teacher Associations at Phillipsburg, Freehold, Newton and Collingswood, as well as a two-day session in Ocean City in July, it was urged that as many delegates as possible be sent from each association so as to secure all benefit possible from coöperation with the State Summer School. It was also urged that the interest of parents be aroused to the importance of making the kindergarten an integral part of the public-school system.

Churches were asked to coöperate with the Congress in an effort to reach the mothers of little children and form mothers' circles, thus trying to emphasize more clearly the importance of the spiritual training of the child.

The Parent-Teacher Association of Washington School, Plainfield, N. J., sent \$1 to the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

At its last regular meeting it celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. It had very little time for preparation and its programme had already been planned when it received the books and announcement of the anniversary, but it observed it in its own little way, and one of the features was the birthday cake with Parent-Teacher Association on top, surrounded with twenty candles. While the President, Mrs. B. F. Tallamy, was explaining about the anniversary and the entertainment was going on, the candles were burning; afterward they were extinguished, the cake cut and sold at five cents a piece, which amounted to the dollar mentioned above.

OHIO

CHILD-WELFARE WORK IN CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO

About an hour's ride from the capital of Ohio is a little town called Circleville. Circleville has one great big feature of which she is justly proud, a well-organized progressive Mothers and Teachers' Club. The members are energetic and enthusiastic.

Union is strength. Mothers and teachers united in a common cause, meeting together monthly, discussing things of value to children, listening to able discussion by able speakers, are bound to gather that strength which comes with union. Now an organized society has a responsibility, a duty to perform under penalty of due consequences that will follow if that duty is shirked. Not to carry out what is thought of, talked of, for the betterment of a community is worse than never to have met, thought and talked.

One of the essential duties of a "Mothers and Teachers' Club" is to wake up the fathers and all able-bodied right-thinking men of the town to a sense of their obligations to the future citizens of the town.

Play is older than history. Play is written largely in the history of the ancients. Now to keep play free from vice a place should be provided.

Dr. Woods Hutchinson said: "Cut down the school hours, and double the play hours and you will have done more for the physical, moral and mental health of young Americans than by any other possible help. Better a playground without a schoolhouse than a schoolhouse without a playground." The Mothers and Teachers' Club believe this to be true and they want playgrounds for their children.

All play and no work is just as bad for children, so we must have a place for the boys and girls to work in. Let us have the vacant lots. Plow them for us, so we may have gardens for the boys and girls to dig in, to grow things in. Their bodies are the temples of the soul. Where could they better fill these temples with ennobling thoughts than in watching things grow, things they themselves planted.

One more thing, and it's not the least these good wise women are doing: they are giving penny lunches to the children at ten o'clock. To put a healthy mind into a body, the body must be healthy.

So many excellent people judge all children by one rule. Don't! They are all different and they require different treatment, physical, moral and spiritual.

If your town is without one of these children's life-saving "Mothers and Teachers' Clubs" make it your business to organize

one and put your time in sympathy with playgrounds, gardens and all amusements of the life-saving quality.

Mrs. Willits H. Sawyer, Arlington, Columbus, Ohio, has accepted the leadership of the Ohio state work. Mrs. J. A. Smith, owing to the care of her baby, found it impossible to attend to state duties and resigned the office. As the Vice-Presidents also were unable to assume the responsibility of the state, Mrs. Sawyer consented to do the work until the next convention in October. Mrs. Mary D. Meredith, 117 W. South St., Painesville, Ohio, has accepted the place of Treasurer, the former Treasurer having resigned.

**PAINESVILLE, OHIO, PLANS FOR WARM MEALS
AT HIGH-SCHOOL RESTAURANT. PARENT-
TEACHERS REPRESENTED AT BOARD
MEETING**

Painesville has been growing so fast lately that the public schools are crowded to overflowing. This was shown in the report of Superintendent C. C. Underwood at the board of education meeting Tuesday night. There are now 1,135 pupils in the city schools.

Parent-Teacher Associations representatives were at the meeting. A high-school kitchen for the purpose of serving warm meals to pupils who are unable to go home was the reason. Superintendent Underwood informed the representatives that the matter had been partially investigated and that out of 63 pupils 58 were willing to buy these meals. The superintendent will investigate the cost.

Additional use of the high school for community-center purposes came up for discussion, but was put over until the next meeting.

A rest room for the grammar-school building is being equipped under the auspices of the Parents-Teachers. This will undoubtedly be appreciated by the teachers and pupils of the school.

Two dozen pie pans for the domestic science class will be placed in the room at once.

OREGON

CHILD LEGISLATION IN OREGON

In its biennial report to the governor and legislative assembly, the Child-Welfare Commission specially urged that seven recommendations be enacted into laws at this session. All but one found more or less complete expression in enactments of the legislature.

When the members outlined their work, the governor specially requested that a study be made of what other states were accomplishing for their indigent, sick and crippled children. Also that the most modern meth-

ods of caring for the dependent and neglected children should be studied, with the view of reporting to the 1917 legislature. The recommendation urging that state care and supervision be given to this latter class of children is the one that failed to carry.

It, however, created much discussion in both houses, resulting finally in the passage of a bill, submitting to the people at the next general election a measure to appropriate \$200,000 for the state care of both dependent and delinquent children. Never before in the history of the state had so much time and thought been given to child-welfare legislation.

The six measures passed are as follows:

Permanent custodial care for the feeble-minded, above the age of twelve, through a commitment law. Not less than three persons shall pass upon the commitments; two physicians and the county judge and providing for right of appeal.

Support and maintenance of illegitimate children by father to the age of fourteen, when paternity has been established by the court; also granting right of inheritance when parentage has been established within three years after birth.

Public-school kindergartens for cities of over 20,000 children. Oregon had been the only state without public-school kindergartens.

Providing for not less than eight months school session for every district.

Provision for the care and surgical treatment of indigent sick, crippled and deformed children in every county.

A more effective cigarette law.

The latter measure in its amended form did not meet the approval of those laboring for it; the real gain was increasing the age to 21, prohibiting the sale and use of cigarettes under this age. Besides the Commission, representatives from various women's organizations were very active at the legislature, much of their work proving effective. This was specially true in the securing of "bone dry" legislation, which will mean a great preventive for many evils that have been a handicap to the highest development of our children. The one woman legislator, Mrs. Alexander Thompson, was a credit to the womanhood of Oregon. Her platform included child-welfare and humanitarian problems; her earnest speeches and her real knowledge of the vital questions discussed well merited the esteem and appreciation of her co-workers in the legislative body.

One feature of the Child-Welfare Commission's work last year proved very effective and apparently resulted in awakening the lawmakers to action regarding greater child

protection. This was the traveling exhibit sent to thirty places in the state. The Commission prepared eleven sets of screens bearing upon the needed legislation for children. Many fine reports and newspaper clippings were received, showing that the attendance had been large in most places and the people intensely interested. In several cities the mayor issued invitations to the public through the press urging every citizen to view the exhibit.

At Milton the greatest enthusiasm was shown. The high-school students, with the principal, visited the exhibit and attended the stereopticon lecture. Later essays were written on "What is Oregon Doing for Its Children?" These essays clearly demonstrate that the facts and illustrations as presented on the charts had made a very marked impression on the students. After the itinerary was completed, the exhibit was placed in the rotunda of the state capitol during the legislature, where the facts were studied by the legislators and their friends.

The research and educational work heretofore done by the Commission has been transferred to the extension division of the State University. After four years of gratuitous service to the state, the Oregon Child-Welfare Commission voted its own abolition, having previously recommended to the governor that the work carried on by the members of this Commission be consigned to the University.

In his message to the legislature, the governor suggested that this be done. Officials of the state who have followed the activities of the Commission have highly commended the practical work accomplished to better the child situation.

The State Board of Health is specially grateful for the birth and death registration law, and the law preventing infant blindness, that the Commission secured at the previous legislative session. It has commended the recent appeal made for extended health education and a child-hygiene division.

The State University and other state institutions have also expressed a deep appreciation of the work as being of very great consequence and regret that no provision has ever been made by the legislature to carry it on.

PENNSYLVANIA

The Nanticoke Branch of the National Congress of Mothers held a Better Baby Contest and Health Exhibit March 11, 12, 13, 14. The Board of Health, School Board and Town Council coöperated with the local branch of the Congress. Much literature

was distributed and the town at large began to realize the great work of the Congress.

The Second Annual Convention of the Chester County Home and School League met in the high school auditorium, West Chester, Pa., March 31, 1917. The President is Mrs. Laura S. Greenwood, of Coatesville.

The address of welcome was given by Mrs. Joseph Scattergood, President of West Chester Home and School League. It was followed by the report of Mrs. Laura S. Greenwood, President, Coatesville. An address on "Why it is Hard to Keep a Parent-Teacher Association Alive" was given by Dr. Charles A. Wagner, Commissioner of Education, Delaware. Reports of delegates on activities of local associations showed remarkable growth in the last year. An address by Mrs. Frederic Schoff, President of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, was given in the afternoon.

The Pennsylvania State Board of the Congress gave a large luncheon in honor of Mrs. Schoff, March 12, in the Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh. Professor Robertson, of the University of Pittsburgh, and Mrs. H. A. Davis were guests, and are giving valuable aid in promotion of the work. Many new associations were reported.

TENNESSEE

SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE. STATE MEETING OF MOTHERS' CONGRESS AT WINCHESTER

March 5 was the date of the Sixth Annual Child-Welfare Conference of the Tennessee Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in Winchester, Tenn. Each succeeding year brings with it renewed interest, and shows the remarkable increase and growth of the congress and its work.

Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, the popular state president, arranged many features in connection with the program that will be far-reaching and beneficial. She sent a special invitation to Dr. P. P. Claxton, commissioner of education, to be present.

It is interesting to note that fifty-six new associations have become affiliated with the state organization since last year's meeting, and others are anticipating organization immediately following the state meeting.

Valuable Suggestions from Mrs. Eugene Crutcher in her Report

"I want to speak a word in commendation of our association in country districts. They work under great disadvantage, coming together when conditions would have kept less earnest people from braving the weather.

When I have seen these conditions I have marveled at their faithfulness.

"Great privileges have come to your president during the year to tell about—our great educational work, viz.:

"In May, Dr. E. L. Bishop, of the state board of health, who has in charge the rural sanitary department, asked the coöperation of the Parent-Teacher Association of the state in an effort to establish better hygiene conditions in rural communities and schools. He especially indorsed the Parent-Teacher movement and has offered to personally assist in organizing such associations. It is through this medium that he hopes to firmly establish in every rural community the principles of good sanitation.

"In June, through Prof. Chas. A. Keffer, director of the division of extension of the state, responded to an invitation to appear on the program of the home makers' department of the Tennessee Farmers' institute at the demonstration farm in Jackson. By invitation of our educational chairman, Mrs. Elizabeth M. Laudebach attended the summer institute held at the University of Chattanooga and appeared on their program. Also spoke to the joint session of the Hamilton County Suburban Improvement Association. By the assistance of Miss Virginia P. Moore have been working with the home demonstration agents, by visiting with them in their counties and organizing Parent-Teacher Associations and appearing on the programs at the county teachers' meetings, being invited by the county superintendents.

"In September the state fair management appointed your president chairman of the child-welfare department which was one of the most interesting and instructive departments of the educational work of the fair. Special space was given to the 'Better Babies' department, Child-Welfare circles, playgrounds well equipped, holding a story hour each day. In connection with the playground a rest room for tired mothers was in readiness. Another interesting feature was the demonstration of school lunches. Prizes were given to the child submitting the best bouquet of flowers, and collection of vegetables, whose cultivation was executed by the contestant; a district meeting featured one day, a county meeting another.

"Please notify the corresponding secretary immediately of any change in presidents or secretaries. Remember, our work stands for education—constructive coöperation, and not for criticism. The home education division of the United States bureau of education in coöperation with states offers a carefully selected reading course and directions for reading. It is a most pleasant practical plan.

If for any reason you fail to have a book at hand, the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE always contains valuable articles that may be used to advantage. I wonder what the members do who try to arouse an interest and enthusiasm in their work without it. If we haven't the magazine it is altogether likely we haven't the literature published by the national, and if so, are we intelligent members of the congress?

"Is it possible for us to wish for its best interests and for its highest aims? I believe it to be the duty of every president to examine herself and find just how much she knows (or doesn't know) of the birth, life and present condition of the national. If she knows definitely just what are its aims and purposes; if she knows who are its officers and who compose the central council; if she knows what the congress is and when and where it was organized; if she knows the extent of state and provincial organization and keeps in touch with the offices in her own particular branch, happy is that association whose leader knows all this and more. Presidents owe it to the association to be familiar with every detail of the congress work. How shall one lead who does not know the way?

"There are hundreds and hundreds of faithful leaders who know the national and all that it stands for, but a single one who does not know may be the stumbling block and the rock of offense to some timid, inquiring ones.

"Let us see to it that a knowledge of our congress is spread far and wide.

"Remember always your legislative department.

"Our time and efforts have not been wasted, since any rousing of public sentiment tends to improve conditions.

"Especially in regard to better films for children. In several localities, managers are beginning to meet us halfway and a few have agreed to try out children's performances, using only films approved by Parent-Teacher Associations. The daily papers have been of great assistance to us.

"*Child Labor.*—Please report any unsatisfactory conditions in any part of the state through the proper chairmen, so that the state chairman will be advised.

"Each association shall have a committee on juvenile court and probation; shall study the subject of juvenile delinquency, with an aim to its prevention.

"The question, 'Is the kindergarten of value in the school system?' has been displaced by the question, 'How may Parent-Teacher Associations strengthen the already assumed value of the kindergarten?' I wish

I had space and time to tell you about the work of our chairman of this department. 'The duty of the recreation department shall be to provide and safeguard suitable amusements and entertainments for children and young people. It shall endeavor to have every schoolhouse used as a social center for the young people of the community, and especially for the patrons of the school where matters of vital importance to the home and the school may be considered. We shall seek to cooperate with other agencies to have supervised playgrounds established where needed.'

"The child-hygiene department shall promote the conservation of the health of the children of the state. Again we are co-operating with division of extension of the state through Mrs. Lena Warner, the special home demonstration agent, who will talk to us this afternoon on health inspection in schools.

"Let us strive through community effort to bring about better conditions in the home and in the schools of our rural sections.

"Let us work for the three great forward movements in the evolution of the country school, the movements for an equality of educational privileges for the country child which are:

"(1) Improvement of the educational plant; (2) enrichment of the course of study; (3) consolidation of country schools.

"Let farmers, housewives, mothers, join in a combined effort through the Parent-Teacher Association to study the country life problems that are confronting us today, and may the solution of the problem result in better homes, better schools and a better community in which to live and rear our children.

"Home economics department shall promote the education of girls in all the arts of good home-making by whatever means may seem advisable. Especially use your influence for the establishment of home economics in the curriculum of schools and colleges.

"Chairman or committee of finance, arrange for child-welfare day, February 17.

"Their duty is to devise ways and means of raising funds to carry on local, state and national work. The small dues of the average associations are hardly more than sufficient to meet running expenses.

"Special child-welfare work needs special funds. We would like to raise on this occasion a sum for the national extension, some small sum for state extension, and the rest devoted to your local child-welfare work.

"Space for regular weekly news articles in the local papers would gladly be accorded

to any association. Please every association appoint a press chairman and send news of your work to the vice-presidents of the state, who will attend to it or notify you of their chairmen, and in this way the magazine will have proper information and extend the knowledge of the work.

"Child-welfare circles are growing in number. Some say they are not teachers nor parents, so we have a department for them. Remember that in addition to the Parent-Teacher Associations and other organizations connected with schools, the congress has in its membership many others not connected with schools, mother circles, parents, classes in churches and others of various names. The congress pin has been much appreciated here and many have been purchased.

"Let us, as mothers and teachers, not be satisfied with the enactment of laws. Let us follow them up consistently and persistently until they are honestly and energetically enforced.

"Again, as members of this congress, we must carefully guard its good name and keep it from being misused or used without authority by promoters of any kind. Your indorsement of any cause or scheme does not affect you alone, but the interests and policies of state and national organizations, as well as your co-workers."

The program included many noted speakers, among them Judge Madison Wells, of the juvenile court, who gave his experiences as a judge and the many lessons he had learned with regard to constructive philanthropy.

Mrs. Warren Waite, of Winchester, gracefully conducted a symposium, where all the reports of the associations throughout the state were read.

Mrs. James C. Bradford, of Nashville, chairman of home and school gardens, gave a stereopticon lecture at the local picture show house.

Prof. J. J. Keyes, of Nashville, urged close cooperation between the home and the school. He stated that the trouble was not always with the schools—that sometimes the home did not furnish good material to work with. Therefore, mothers should inform themselves as to the best method of handling their children.

Prof. P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education, delivered a brilliant address. He spoke of the magnificent work of the national congress and of the aid given the work by the national government. He urged an enlightened motherhood, as well as a better prepared teaching force.

He urged mothers to tell the teachers all about their children, agreeable or otherwise,

as the teacher had to know what to expect of the material with which she worked.

He said that while men are interested in the affairs of life, women are interested in life itself. This address will never be forgotten by those so fortunate as to have heard it.

Mrs. G. M. Whittemore, chairman of finance, received a rising vote of thanks for the successful way in which she had conducted child-welfare day.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President, Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, Nashville; Vice-President at-large, Mrs. C. J. St. John, Bristol; Vice-President East Tennessee, Mrs. L. C. Snyder, Chattanooga;

Vice-President Middle Tennessee, Miss Cornelia Barksdale, Nashville; Vice-President West Tennessee, Mrs. W. C. Johnson, Memphis; Recording Secretary, Mrs. R. A. Cameron, Memphis; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. G. M. Whittemore, Nashville; Treasurer, Mrs. Alice Cloyd, Nashville; Historian, Mrs. J. Gerald Stuart, Knoxville. Mrs. Eugene Crutcher received a tremendous ovation and was unanimously reelected, as also were Mrs. C. J. St. John of Bristol, Miss Cornelia Barksdale and Mrs. Alice Cloyd and Mrs. J. Gerald Stuart.

Memphis was chosen as the city which will entertain the next state conference.

"In One Hundred Years the Bible Will Be Unknown"

Voltaire, the famous French infidel, once said: "In a hundred years from now the Bible will be an unknown book." And how has this prediction been fulfilled? After a hundred years his house in Geneva was the branch office of the British Bible Society. In Voltaire's time not one Bible society existed in the world; to-day we have seventy-three. In 1908 the various Bible societies published 11,378,954 copies. Adding the products of all the Bible societies, we have the enormous total of five hundred million

Bibles published in the nineteenth century.

In Voltaire's time the Bible was published in thirty-eight languages; now it is published in four hundred and thirty-six languages. The above figures should have made Dr. Charles W. Eliot think before making the assertion that "the new religion will do away with the Bible." As sure as Voltaire was mistaken, so Professor Eliot's prediction will come to naught.

—*The Missionary Voice.*

Bobbie's Prayer

Dear Lord, why must I always pray,
"If I should die before I wake?"
Please, Lord, I want to stay right here
Where my things are and Ma is near,
And I can watch the twinkling stars
Up there in Heaven where you are.
If I died now I'd be afraid
And wouldn't half know what to do;
I might be naughty, too, dear Lord,
And then, perhaps, I'd bother you.
What do you do with little boys
When they are bound to make much noise?

Ma says she has an *awful* time
To make us boys hear and obey.
Don't take me sleeping in the night;
'Twould make me 'fraid to go to sleep,
And a-n-y way, not r-i-g-h-t a-w-a-y!
We boys are having *lots* of fun,
And there's *so* much we want to do,
Per-h-a-ps in h-u-n-d-r-e-d years from now
When all are dead—I'm old—and—gray,
There's no one 'round with whom to play
I—guess—I'll—want—to—come—to You.

ELISE TRAUT

CHILD NOTES

**Department of Superintendence,
National Education Association**

VOTE UNIVERSAL PHYSICAL TRAINING, BUT
TEACHERS' CONVENTION DISAPPROVES
OF SCHOOL DRILL

*Committee Report Favoring Compulsory Service
for All Men More Than Nineteen Years
Old Adopted by Superintendents.*

Compulsory military training and service for all men more than nineteen years old was adopted by the department of superintendence, National Education Association, which, at the same time, registered its disapproval of any form of military training or drill in the schools.

Instead of a military system in the schools, the committee recommended compulsory physical training. The reasons the committee gave for condemning school drill were that military authorities were opposed to it; that it was detrimental to the physical growth of pupils, who are immature; that it retarded regular school work; that pupils were not all compelled to take part, and if it were made compulsory pupils could avoid it by staying out of school.

The report, however, recommended compulsory military training and service for all men over nineteen, "since it appears we have not yet reached the time when we may escape war." It should be a vigorous preparation for war, Mr. Snyder said, directed by the national government and at its expense. Expert instructors provided by the national government should train the men.

Wyoming Plan a Failure

The members investigated the Wyoming plan and declare it a failure. Opinions of the war experts of the government were quoted, condemning training of immature young men.

"Cadet training or drill makes the boys mechanically obedient while they are under orders. There it ends," Mr. Snyder said.

Physical training should be compulsory on all boys and girls attending school, the report reads. It should include physical exercises, setting-up drills with emphasis upon posture and discipline, marching, organized and supervised play, summer camps and outdoor play. It should be intensive, adapted to the needs of the pupils and should include provision for the correction of bodily defects.

"The schools should continue their instruction in patriotic and civic service and development of responsibility of American citizenship. The spirit and purpose of the Boy Scout movement, as contributing to these purposes, should be recognized."

**Kindergarten Letter, 1916-17, Sent to
10,000 Kindergartners in the
United States**

THE KINDERGARTNER'S RELATION TO THE HOME

In the opinion of Lucy Wheelock, Elizabeth Harrison and Fanniebelle Curtis, members of the Committee on International Kindergarten Union Affiliation with the National Congress of Mothers, too great stress cannot be laid upon the importance of active coöperation between kindergartners and mothers. It is urged that the time is now ripe for kindergartners as a body to take definite steps towards informing themselves regarding the aims and purposes of parent-teacher associations, and allying themselves with this nation-wide movement, which aims not only to draw together women in cities but also to enrich the lives of those who live in rural communities.

It is further urged that students in kindergarten training schools and normal schools be given specific instruction as to the details of the organization, the scope of the work, and the material and social benefits that are bound to result from uniting with the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

To that end it is suggested that Froebel's Birthday, April 21, or an approximate date, be devoted by kindergarten training schools, normal schools, and Kindergarten Associations to a presentation of the aims and work of the Congress whose representatives may be secured in almost every state to speak on the subject. (Application for this service may be made to Mrs. Frederic Schoff, 3418 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.)

Training schools may be instrumental also in rendering service to mothers who are remote from large centers and therefore unable to place their children in regularly organized kindergartens. By means of written outlines and suggestions furnished by kindergarten training teachers a great deal may be accomplished at home by a mother who is willing to give time to the direction of the development of her children.

**South American Activity for Child
Welfare**

Peru is interested in the organization of Parent-Teacher Associations. Mr. Henry A. Nordahl is director of the three Anglo-American Schools of Lima and Callao.

About 250 children attend. Child life in Peru is quite different, making the work among the parents even more necessary.